MONDAY, APRIL 24, 1854.

IN SENATE.

The following memorials and petitions were presented and appropriately referred:

By Mr. EVERETT: From Bingham Pierce and others, ers of the American Association for the Promotimembers of the American Association for the Promotion of Science, asking Congress to make an appropriation to enable Prof. Mitchell, of Cincinnati, to construct a ma-chine for observing right ascensions and declinations by

chine for observing right ascensions and declinations by the aid of magnetism.

Accompanying the memorial was a report from a committee, appointed for the examination of the subject, which says that the apparatus contains all the professor's claims in regard to simplicity, accuracy, facility, and dispatch. It is a fair specimen of ingenious confivance, and the best proof of its superiority is the fact that, notwithstanding the roughness of construction which the inventor has been forced to submit to by his limited resources, it rivals in the accuracy of is results the most finished specimen of skilful workmarship.

Mr. E. spoke of the importance of this Avention to the cause of science, as promising great pactical utility in its application, and really reflecting freat credit on the country. He did not know what committee to send it to, as the matter did not pertain to any of the stand-

the country. He did not know what committee to send it to, as the matter did not pertain to any of the standing committees of the body, and he would therefore move its reference to a select committee of five.

The motion was agreed to, and the select committee will be appointed by the Chair.

By Mr. RUSK: Formula of the committee of the committee will be appointed by the Chair.

The motion was agreed to, and the select committee will be appointed by the Chair.

By Mr. RUSK: From Robert Mills, architect and engineer, proposing a new plan of railroad for transporting the mails of the United States, and troops and military stores. The memorialist goes into a calculation to show that if the Government will build the road the saving in expense of transporting the mail to California would pay its cost in five years and secure the free passage of the mail for all time to come.

The advantages claimed for this plan of road are its economy, facility of construction, efficiency, safety, and high speed, freedom from all the mishaps and inconveniences of the travel of the present railroads. 1st. Its gost will not be one-jourth of the present roads. 2d, Its facility of construction is so great that it may be accomplished for travel in two or three years. 3d. Its efficiency in effecting its destiny, viz. the passage of the mail, &c., great indeed. 4th. Its safety in travel, from either running off the track or baing subject to any ground obstruction, certain; and 5th. Its capacity for high speed so great that one hundred miles an hour may be accomplished if required. Besides these advantages, this system of railway will effect the great object of establishing a line of telegroph acress to the Pacific, under circumstances of security which no ether plan can effect.

By Mr. HUNTER: From several intelligent and highly tespectable mechanics of the District of Columbia, asking that if the homestend bill granting land should be passed

respectable mechanics of the District of Columbia, asking that if the homestead bill granting land should be passed that there be paid out of the Treasury \$200 to them. They express their belief that the conditions of the homestead bill will be evaded, and that the only effect of the bill will be to enable the loafer and speculator to pick out and secure eligible spots, which the progress of popula-tion will in less than five years make valuable, and thus serve to exact an exorbitant price from, or drive further into the wilderness, the bona fide settler who seeks to purchase, pay for, and improve the public domain. It goes on to say that the signers are not paupers, and ask no favors from the Government, but they demand as an act of justice and right, if the bill is to pass, that a clause be inserted authorizing mechanics possessed of no other tools to draw on the national treasury for \$200 to assist them in purchasing the implements of their profession.

By Mr. BUTLER: From certain keepers of public

houses in the city of Washington, requesting the Commit-tee on the District of Columbia to instruct the Common Council to repeal the ordinance compelling restaurants and eating-houses to be closed at midnight, complaining that many who are compelled to labor all night by this prohibition are deprived of the right and privilege of obtaining refreshments when nature calls for them. They suggest that the law is unconstitutional and anti-republican, and does not even smell democratic; and they submit whether, if they have the power to compel a closing of doors at midnight, they have not the same power to direct their close at 8 o'clock.

By Mr. SEWARD: From citizens of the United States

professing the Jewish religion, asking that measures may be taken to secure to them the right of civil and religious liberty while travelling abroad.

Also, fro the heirs and legal representatives of John Neilson, asking compensation for the services of his an-

revolutionary war. Also, from C. M. Clarke, asking remuneration for losses sustained by her father under a contract to furnish

cestor, in remuneration for losses sustained during the

By Mr. ALLEN: From soldiers of the Rhode Island ia, asking remuneration for services in the last war with Great Britain. By Mr. FISH : From the Marine Society of New York, asking that ships and vessels of over one hundred and fifty tons, clearing at the custom-house, be furnished with

two or more boys.

By Mr. DAWSON: From John Makin, a pilot, in relation to a claim to salvage for relieving the United States frigate Saranac while in distress off the harbor of Sa-

By Mr. SUMNER: Memorials from the Mayor of Boston, from citizens of Massachusetts and of New Hampshire, in favor of cheap ocean postage.

By Mr. FOOT: From Sherman Pierce, asking a pen-

By Mr. CHASE: From citizens of Ohio in favor of

cheap postage.

By Mr. JOHNSON: From citizens of Arkansas in faof a mail route from Hot Springs to Owenville, in

Numerous petitions were presented in the shape of protests against the passage of the Nebraska bill or vio-lation of the Missouri compromise.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES. Mr. BRODHEAD, from the Committee on the Post Of-

fice and Post Roads, submitted a report, accompanied by a bill for the relief of Joseph Knock. Also, from the Committee of Claims, asking to be discharged from the further consideration of the memorial of Charles Gordon, and that it be referred to the Committee on Public Lands; which was agreed to.

Also, from the same committee, to which was referred House bill for the relief of Grafton Baker, reported it back without amendment, and asked its immediate con-sideration; and ne objection having been made, the bill Mr. DOUGLAS, from the Committee on Territories, to

which was referred the joint resolution from the House of Representatives authorizing the accounting officers of the Treasury to adjust the expenses of the Board of Comioners appointed by the Territorial Assembly of Oregon to prepare a code of laws; also, to adjust the expense of collecting and waleting ng and printing certain laws and archives of the Territory of Oregon, reported it back without amend-ment and asked its immediate consideration.

No objection having been made, the joint resolution was

read a third time and passed.

Mr. DOUGLAS, from the same committee, asked to be discharged from the further consideration of the following memorials of the Territorial Legislature of New Mex-lco: respecting a military post at Fort Atkinson; relative an grants; and in relation to to land titles under Mexi-Indian depredations, as not pertaining to the Committee

on Territories; and they were referred to appropriate JONES, from the Committee on Pensions, asked to be discharged from the further consideration of the petitions of the heirs at law of George Hoyle, of Frances Depriest, and of D. McManus, and that they be referred to the Committee on Public Lands; which was agreed to.

Mr. CLAY, from the Committee on Pensions, to which
was referred several petitions from seamen and marines
asking an increase of pension, submitted a report, accom-

panied by a general bill to increase the pension of scamer and marines. [This bill increases the pension to eight dollars per month for disabilities of the highest degree, provided that all change of rates of pension are to take effect from the passage of this act. All disabilities occurring in the line of duty entitle the parties to a pension.]

Mr. CLAY also, from the same committee, asked to be discharged from the further consideration of the petitions of Eliza G. Townsend, Arabella Riley, Minerva Cattlett,

nd Nannie Denman. Mr. DODGE, of Iowa, from the Committee on Public Lands, to which was referred the bill granting land to the State of Alabama to aid in the construction of a railroad

from some point within the boundary line of the States of Alabama and Tennessee to a point on the boundary line of the States of Alabama and Florida, reported it back, and asked its immediate consideration; which was agreed to, and the bill was passed.

Mr. FITZPATRICK introduced a bill granting the right

ama to aid in the construction of a railroad from Girard, Alabama, to the city of Mobile. RESCUE OF THE CREW OF THE SAN FRANCISCO.

of way and making a grant of land to the State of Ala-

On motion by Mr. SHIELDS, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill making remuneration to those who aided in the rescue of United States troops and others on board Mr. GWIN submitted an amendment as a substitute for the original resolution, the effect of which was to give gold medals to the parties named, and authorizing the

ient to reward the officers and crew of the vessels

which Messrs. GWIN, SAIELDS, HAMLIN, SLIDELL, MALLORY, and others satisfacted.

The question was then taken on Mr. Gwin's amendment, and decided in the negative, as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Atchison, Butler, Clay, Bawson, Bodge of Iowa, Evans, Fitspatrick, Gwin, Huster, Norris, Pratt, Rusk, Sebastian, Shidell Toomb, and Williams—16.

NAYS—Messr. Allen, Badger, Bell, Bright, Brown, Cooper, Everett, Fish. oot, Geyer, Hamlin, Jones of Iowa, Mallory, Pettit, Sewed, Shields, Stuart, Sumner, Thompson of Kentucky, Wede, and Wright—21.

Mr. 2 WIN then moved to strike out from the resolution

Mr. 3 WIN then moved to strike out from the resolution he appropriation of \$100,000 and insert \$50,000. This motion, after a brief discussion, was decided in the ffirmative, as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Atchison, Bright, Butler, Clay, Dawson, Evans, Fitzpatrick, Geyer, Gwin, Hunter, Jones of Tennessee, Norris, Pearce, Pettit, Pratt, Rusk, Sebastian, Slidell, Thompson of Kentucky, Toombs, and Williams—21.

NAYS—Messrs. Allen, Badger, Bell, Brown, Cooper, NAYS-Messrs. Allen, Badger, Bell, Brown, Cooper, Everett, Fish, Foot, Hamlin, Mallory, Seward, Shields, Stuart, umner, Wade, and Wright-16.

On the question, "Shall the joint resolution be engross d for a third reading ?" it was decided in the affirmative as follows :

YEAS—Mesers. Allen, Badger, Bell, Chase, Cooper, Everett, Fish, Foot, Geyer, Hamlin, Jones of Tennessee, Mallory, Pearce, Rusk, Seward, Shields, Stuart, Sumner, Thompson of Kentucky, Wade, and Wright—21.

NAYS—Messrs. Atchison, Bright, Brown, Butler, Clay
Dawson, Evans, Fitspatrick, Hunter, Norris, Pettit, Pratt
Sebastian, Slidell, Toombs, and Williams—16.

MILITARY ACADEMY. The bill from the House of Representatives for the sup port of the Military Academy was returned with the an nunciation that the House had agreed to all the amend ments of the Senate with the exception of that increasing the pay of the professors of French and drawing. Mr. HUNTER argued in favor of the Senate receding,

but Mr. SHIELDS, refusing to yield, moved that the Se-nate disagree to the amendment of the House, and that a committee of conference be appointed; which motion was agreed to. INDIAN APPROPRIATION BILL

On the motion of Mr. HUNTER, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the House bill making appropria-tions for the current and contingent expenses of the In-dian Department, and for fulfilling treaty stipulations with various Indian tribes, for the year ending June 30, 1855.

The amendments reported by the Committee on Finance were read seriatim, and most of them were concurred in, after which the further consideration of the subject was ostponed until to-morrow.

And the Senate then adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. EDGERTON and Mr. ELLISON respectively presented resolutions of the Legislature of Ohio, requesting their representatives in Congress to use their influence to procure the passage of the bill of the Senate to divide the said State into two judicial districts; which were referred to the Committee on the Judiciary and ordered to be printed.
On motion of Mr. BERNHISEL, by consent,

Another of Mr. BERNHISEL, by consent, Received, That the Committee on Territories be instructed to inquire into the expediency of placing the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Utah on the same footing, as regards clerks, &c., as those of Minnesota and Oregon, and that said committee report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. BANKS, by consent, introduced a bill to refund the balance due to Massachusetts for disbursements dur-ing the late war with Great Britain; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs. Mr. GREY asked consent to offer the following reso-

lutions:
1. Revolved, That the Postmaster General be directed t report to the House of Representatives why the mail service was not "let" and contracted for on the river routes—1st. From Louisville, Kentucky, to Evansville, Indiana, and back, daily; 2d. From Evansville to Cairo, Illinois, and back, daily; 3d. From Cairo to St. Louis, Missouri, and back, daily; according to the advertisement of 31st December, 1852, and the eleventh section of the act of Congress, approved 31st of August, 1852, which made it the "duty of the Postmaster General to issue proposals and contract for the transportation of a daily mail" on those routes, "on suitable and safe steam-boats." The bids, by terms of the advertisement, to be re-ceived in the Post Office Department "until 3 o'clock P. M.

ceived in the Post Office Department "until 3 o'clock P. M. of the 10th day of February, 1853, to be decided by the 1st of March, and service to commence on the 1st of July following, and continue for four years.

2. Resolved, That he furnish copies of all the contracts and bids and "proposals" for contracts and bids which have been made with, proposed to, or received from Thomas Shirlock and Z. M. Shirley, or either of them, or with, to, or from any other persons or persons, together with conies of all the amendother person or persons, together with copies of all the amen ments, alterations, privileges, extensions, or restrictions au-thorized and permitted or assumed and exercised, and of all orders for additional compensation, except what appears on the face of the contract or contracts, on this said route from the face of the contract or contracts, on this said route from Louisville to St Louis, or any part of it, since March, 1851; also, the greatest number of "mail messengers," "route agents," local agents, and employés that now are or have at any one time during the above period been engaged in, or connected with, the service on that route, (exclusive of postmasters;) at what points engaged, and the salary per quarter per ner summ of each one of them; also, who are now the r per annum of each one of them; also, who are now the ontractors from Louisville to St. Louis, and in what manner each and all of said contracts were made, whether privately or by being let to the lowest bidder; also, what intermediate ffices between Louisville and St. Louis have been authorized offices were to be supplied under those contracts or arrangements since March, 1851, and how often por week each and every one of those offices were to be supplied under those contracts or arrangements since March, 1851, or either one of them, and why the official reports from the Postmaster General, as published i the "Blue Book," state the service between Louisville and S louis is performed for \$40,222.22, when the allowance to the

Louis is performed for \$40,222.22, when the allowance to the contractors on that route is \$70,000 per year, exclusive of "route agents," 'local agents." "mesengers," &c.

3. Resolved, That he furnish copies of all orders, rules, or regulations adopted by him which tend to prevent or deny to members of Congress the privilege of going into the public rooms of the Post Office Department, and then and there examining, with assistance of the clerks, the "public records" under the charge of said clerks.

Objection was made. Mr. GREY moved a suspension of the rules so as to enable him to offer his resolutions; which motion was decided in the negative-Yeas 64, nays 81. PRIVATEERS.

On motion of Mr. FAULKNER, (under a suspension of the rules.)

Resolved, That the President of the United States be re quested to communicate to the House, if in his judgment not incompatible with the public interests, the instructions refer-red to by President Monroe in his annual message of the 2d December, 1823, and transmitted to our diplomatic agents abroad, upon the subject of the issue of commissions to private armed vessels, together with the responses, if any, received from said Governments; also, any other instructions given or correspondence held with foreign Governments upon the same subject since the date of said message, and not retofore communicated to Congress. The House then resumed the consideration of Senate

oill for the relief of James Jeffries and Jeremiah M. Smith, which had been postponed to this day. Messrs. SAGE, EDGERTON, and GROW opposed the hill and Mr. EWING advocated it.

The bill was then referred to the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads.

DEFICIENCY BILL. On motion of Mr. PHELPS, the House then went into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, (Mr. CHANDLER, of Pennsylvania, in the chair,) and proceeded to consider the bill to supply deficiencies in the appro-

priations for the service of the fiscal year ending the 30th of June, 1854, returned from the Senate with fifty-Mr. PHELPS said that the bill as it passed the House contained appropriations to the amount of nearly a mil-tion and a half of dollars. The Senate had added amendents to it amounting to upwards of two millions of dollars, and the Committee of Ways and Means, in considering them, had concluded to recommend a concurrence in several of them, amounting in the aggregate to a half

In regard to the amendment appropriating \$500,000 or continuing the works for bringing water into the city of Washington, the estimate for the plan now being pro-secuted was nearly two millions and a half of dollars. Another plan had been suggested which the projector said would give an ample supply of water to the cities of Washington and Georgetown, and could be constructed at a cost of a million of dollars. This being the case, the Committee of Ways and Means did not think it proper to recommend a concurrence in the amendment.

The Senate had also inserted in the bill an amendment appropriating \$75,000 for the completion of the bridge across the Potomac river, at the Little Falls. The committee of Ways and Means recommended the House to non-concur in this amendment.

He then referred to other amendments and the action of the committee thereon; and, in conclusion, urged the ecessity of prompt action on the bill.

Mr. PHILLIPS then addressed the committee on the

abject of the Nebraska-Kansas bill. He said that it had been assailed by many, who, while admitting the cor rectness of the principle upon which it was founded, yet objected to it as a repeal of the Missouri act of 1820. If that act had no further claim upon their consideration than its own intrinsic merits it would surely be illogical to say that the wrong of their predecessors should be a bar to righteous action on their own part. But it was said that the act of 1820 was something

ommanded by them by giving gold, silver, and bronze it was, then, of the greatest importance to examine into ledges, with suitable devices to.

This amendment led to considerable discussion, in high Messrs. GWIN, SAIELDS, HAMLIN, SLIDELL, it could not receive the concurrence or assent of any like the members of the Committee on Foreign in the state of the Whole on the state of the U.S. Army, asking to be placed on the U.S. Army, asking to be placed on the Union; which was agreed to.

Mr. INGERSOLL. I wish to ask the gentleman from the Union; which was agreed to.

DEFICIENCY BILL—NEBRASKA. could not receive the concurrence or assent of any onorable man. For the purpose of making this examination he had looked into the journals of the two Houses of Congress of the sessions of 1820 and 1821; for the truth of a proposition was not to be tried by hearsay evidence, not on uncertain memory, but by the records, those faithful chroniclers of the past and unerring guides for the future; and he would say boldly that, so far from the journals showing that any such idea of compact or agreement as was now alleged was then entertained between the Representatives of the several non-slaveholding States and those of the slaveholding States, there was not a page relating to the subject-matter which did not dispute the

Mr. P. then quoted from the journals to sustain this

assertion, and was proceeding to argue the effect of the Badger proviso when his hour expired.

Mr. HARRIS, of Mississippi, followed, and proceeded to speak against the Nebraska-Kansas bill in its present shape; but before he concluded he gave way to a motion that the committee rise, which being agreed to—

The committee rose.

Mr. PHELPS offered a resolution to close debate committee on the deficiency bill in two hours after its consideration shall have been resumed, on the adoption of which he demanded the previous question.

Pending which the House adjourned.

TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 1854.

IN SENATE.

A message was received from the President of the United States transmitting a report from the Attorney General suggesting modifications in the manner of conducting the legal business of the Government; which was referred to the Committee on Retrenchment and ordered to be printed.

This document is somewhat voluminous, and appears to have been prepared with great care, and goes into a history of the duties required to be performed by the Attorney General from the incipiency of the Government to the present time, and suggests to Congress certain modifications.

MEMORIALS AND PETITIONS. The following memorials were presented and appropriate

By Mr. HAMLIN: From Robert C. Forbes, asking the establishment of floating schools in the principal sea ports of the United States and on one of the lakes for the partial education of seamen.

By Mr. BRODHEAD: From the Franklin Institute of Pennsylvania, asking that the Executive of the United States may be authorized to negotiate with the Govern-ment of Great Britain for the establishment of a coinage for the two countries identical in every thing but name.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES. Mr. DODGE, of Iowa, from the Committee on Public Lands, to which was referred the bill to grant other lands in lieu of certain 16th sections heretofore disposed of by the United Statas for other than school purposes, report-ed it with an amendment, and asked its immediate con-No objection having been made, the amendment was

Mr. JOHNSON, from the Committee on Public Lands, reported a bill to amend an act entitled "An act to grant the right of pre-emption to certain purchasers and settlers on the Maison Rouge grant in the event of the final adjudication in favor of the United States," and asked its imnediate consideration.

concurred in, and the bill was read a third time and

No objection having been made, the bill was read third time and passed.

Mr. ALLEN, from the Committee on Pensions, reported a joint resolution relative to the administration of the

on laws.

lutions:

[This resolution provides that hereafter, in the administration of the laws, the marriage of a widow otherwise entitled to pension, half-pay, or commutation shall be no bar to her claim, she being a widow at the time of her application, provided there be no children of her husband whose services she claims under sixteen years of age. ] Also, from the same committee, submitted a report, accompanied by a bill for the relief of Nancy Bowen and Sarah Larrabee.

Also, from the same committee, submitted adverse re-

ports on the petitions of C. C. Beatty, of Catharine White, and of Hiram Upson, of New York.

Mr. EVANS, from the Committee on Revolutionary

Claims, submitted an adverse report on the memorial Margaret Barnitz, heir of David Greer.

Mr. SEWARD, from the Committee on Pensions, sub mitted adverse reports on the petitions of Philip Becaunon and of the heirs of Nathan Daggett.

Mr. COOPER, from the Committee on Revolutionary Claims, to which was recommitted the bill for the relief of Robert C. Thompson, only surviving child and legal representative of Wm. Thompson, deceased, formerly a Brigadier General in the army of the Revolutionary war, reported it back without amendment.

Also, from the same committee, submitted an adverse

report on the memorial of Wm. L. Meredith.

Mr. WELLER, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, asked to be discharged from the further considera-tion of the memorials of Wm. G. Morehead, of Jean Deplaigne, and of Jno. S. De Wolf; which was agreed to.

SELECT COMMITTEE. The select committee in relation to the memorial of the

American Association for the Promotion of Science was appointed by the Chair, and consists of Messrs. EVERETT, Toucey, Mallory, Dawson, and Norris. RESOLUTION.

On motion by Mr. MORTON, Resolved, That the Committee on Commerce be directed to inquire into the expediency of making an appropriation for the erection of a marine hospital at Pensacola, Florida.

incompatible with the public interests, to inform this House whether, in any particular, the Government of Great Britain has assumed to act for Spain in the negotiations consequent

upon the seizure of the Black Warrior; what degree of respon sibility that Government has assumed in the matter; and i

practical importance. I am as much averse to wasting

I think, therefore, that this department of the Govern-

will also say a word. I perceive in the reports of the de-

bates of the British Parliament that a member asked

Lord John Russell what course the British Government

had taken in relation to the Black Warrior affair. Ha in

formed the House that instructions had been transmitted

but that no answer had been received. I read that with

amazement. It is important that we should know what

I only wish to add, sir, that it would seem the purpos

of the British Government, or of the present Ministry of

that Government, to interfere—as they have expresse their determination, in conjunction with France, to do-

that affair in connexion with Spain.

Mr. Crampton, the British Minister to this country,

souri proceeding.

Mr. WASHBURN, of Maine, referred to a case similar On motion by Mr. MASON, the Senate proceeded to the to the question before the committee, in which he himself consideration of Executive business; and, after some time was permitted to conclude his speech by occupying a porspent therein, the doors were re-opened, and the Senate adjourned.

tion of another gentleman's hour. Mr. HOUSTON called for the Chair's decision. The CHAIRMAN decided that the gentleman from HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. Missouri could not proceed without universal consent. Mr. EWING, by consent, submitted the following reso

should be made against him ?

Mr. PECKHAM appealed from this decision. Mr. OLIVER, of Missouri. I am decidedly in favor of Recoved, That the President be requested, if not incompatible with the public interests, to inform this House what steps, if any, have been taken by this Government to secure the permanent acknowledgment by treaty of the rights of neutrals by the Governments of Great Britain and France, the Nebraska-Kansas bill, but, having no fears for its safety on account of any thing that might be said in opposition to the measure, and no fear of the most thorough discussion to which it can be subjected, on account of my respect for my venerable colleague, I trust the House will extend to him the courtesy of allowing him to conclude and what degree of success has attended those efforts, if any is remarks. The friends of this bill have no fears. Resolved, further, That the President be requested, if not

Mr. CLINGMAN. Certainly not. Mr. SMITH, of Virginia. I am perfectly willing to extend to the gentleman from Missouri all the time that is necessary for him to complete his remarks; but the committee will understand perfectly well that while it is very desirable to myself, this committee, and the country that

so assuming to act for Spain, upon what pretext, if any is Mr. CLINGMAN. I make the point that this discus-Mr. EWING. I have but a word to say in regard to sion is out of order. If I were to attempt to speak some-body would object, and therefore I object to the gentlethe object I have in view in presenting these resolutions. As the question is upon their adoption, an explanation of man from Virginia. He did not make this poi the object may influence some members in the vote they any personal objection to the gentleman from Missouri. may give upon them.

I drew up the resolutions and have submitted them to or the gentleman from Virginia, but only did so because the judgment of some of the members of the Committee on he desired to see the rules carried out. Foreign Affairs, as well as to other gentlemen outside of that committee; all of whom regard it as a matter of

Mr. WENTWORTH. Does any gentleman object to the gentleman from Missouri finishing his speech out of my

Mr. CLINGMAN. Certainly; I make the objection, the time of the House in the passage of mere declarations and others have made it. of sentiment as any member can be; I have always been At the suggestion of Mr. Onn the rule was read, which opposed to that course; but I am fully convinced that the ime has ceme for practical action upon this subject.

It has been said that our able representative at the prescribes that no member shall occupy more than one nour on any question in the House or in Committee. The question was then taken, "Shall the decision of the Chair stand as the judgment of the Committee?" and court of Great Britain is endeavoring to perfect a treaty to effect the purpose referred to in the resolutions. I know not that it is so; but it has been intimated that there is danger that, amid the jealousies of the leaders of that great party whose peculiar mission it is to furnish Presidents to this country and to divide the spoils, this nego-

the vote was as follows: Ayes 96, noes 4, no quorum The roll was then called, when the Committee rose and reported the names of the absentees to the House.

A quorum having responded to their names, the House again went into Committee. tiation may come to naught. At all events, I believe that secret diplomacy is of no advantage to this Government. The question recurring on the appeal from the decision of the Chair, Mr. PECKHAM withdrew it. We gain nothing by it. Our only strength arises from the knowledge that the uncontrollable Demogracy of this Mr. WENTWORTH, of Illinois, then moved an amendcountry plant themselves upon their rights, and are de-

termined to assert them, and will not yield a particle of them; and that is our greatest, perhaps our only, advan-tage in negotiations with foreign Governments. Secrecy nent, and asked that the gentleman from Missouri might be heard thereon.

Mr. BENTON claimed the floor. A question of order was raised as to whether the amendgives us no strength, because we cannot secure that pro found secrecy which surrounds the diplomacy of foreign

nent was now in order.

The CHAIRMAN decided that the amendment was in rder, and that the gentleman from Missouri was entitled to the floor. ment and the people of the country ought to participate Mr. BENTON then resumed and concluded his rein the councils and in the knowledge of all such matters as this. In reference to the last of the two resolutions I

The House then adjourned. WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 1854.

IN SENATE.

The following memorials and petitions were presented

and appropriately referred:

By Mr. SUMNER: From the Pennsylvania Yearly action, if any, that Government has taken in relation to Meeting of Progressive Friends, asking the adoption by Congress of such measures as will have a tendency to induce foreign Powers to refer all disputes to national

But it was said that the act of 1820 was something more than a legislative act; that it was the result of a compact or agreement between the two great sections of the Confederacy, intended to be perpetually obligatory.

These are my reasons for calling the Confederacy, intended to be perpetually obligatory.

These are my reasons for calling the confidence of the House to this subject at this time. I modified the substitutes for the bill herectofore offered by their determination, in conjunction with France, to do—
in their determination, in conjunction with France, to do—
in the regulation of affairs upon this continent and all over the universe.

Also, additional documents in support of the claim of over the universe.

Also, additional documents in support of the claim of over the universe.

These are my reasons for calling the modified the substitutes for the bill herectofore offered by their determination.

Also, additional documents in support of the claim of over the universe.

These are my reasons for calling the modified the substitutes for the bill herectofore offered by their determination.

Also, additional documents in opposition to the bill, but yielded to a motion that the matches to refer all disputes to national arbitration.

By Mr. JONES, of Tennessee: From John F. Moses of New Hampshire, asking such action on the indigen Kentucky what members of the Committee on Foreign Affairs have been consulted in reference to this resoinsane bill as will secure its passage, irrespective of the Mr. EWING. I do not feel called upon to answer the

By Mr. STUART: A document in favor of establish ing certain mail routes in the mineral region of Lake

Mr. INGERSOLL. I then move to refer the resolution

operation thereof the motion was agreed to.

NEBRASKA.

On motion of Mr. MACE, the House went into Com

mittee of the Whole on the state of the Union, (Mr. CHANDLER, of Pennsylvania, in the chair,) and resumed

the consideration of the bill to supply deficiencies in the appropriations for the service of the fiscal year ending the

30th of June, 1854, returned from the Senate with numer

ous amendments.
Mr. HARRIS, of Mississippi, who was entitled to the

loor, to conclude the remarks commenced by him yester-

day, yielded to
Mr. BENTON, of Missouri, who addressed the com-

mittee for an hour in opposition to the Nebraska Bill (in a speech which will be found on the sixth page of this

paper.)
Mr. B.'s hour having expired before he had concluded—

m to conclude his remarks.

[Cries of "Go on," "Go on."]

Mr. SEWARD objected, and much confusion ensued.

Mr. BAYLY, of Virginia. If the gentleman who is entitled the floor does not wish to avail himself of his right I wish to address the committee.

Mr. WENTWORTH. I desire the floor; but if the

gentleman from Missouri wishes to occupy it until he finishes his speech I have no objection to permit him to

do so out of my time.

Mr. BAYLY, of Virginia. I do not object to the gen-

tleman from Missouri proceeding with his remarks; but if the gentleman from Illinois does not wish the floor I

Mr. HUNT. I hope the gentleman from Missouri will

Mr. CULLOM. I hope that the courtesy of the com

requently been done heretofore.

Mr. CLINGMAN. It has been decided out of order

gentleman from Illinois has the floor, and has expressed a desire to yield it to the honorable member from Mis-

Mr. WENTWORTH said that he wished at the outse

of his remarks to know if at any time during this Con-gress, when any member obtained the floor, and consented

to yield it to another for a short time to enable him to

onclude his speech or for explanation, this privilege had

Mr. WENTWORTH said that he had the floor, a

could occupy it if necessary, but nevertheless, as the gentleman from Missouri had not finished his speech, as

this was a very important question, and as the eye of the

whole country was turned to this debate and to the course which was to be taken in regard to this bill, he desired the country and the thousands of witnesses who were now

Let it be proclaimed everywhere.

Mr. KEITT. The gentleman's statement is not true

Mr. ORR. The gentleman from Illinois is mistaken.

them as they are.

Mr. CLINGMAN. The gentleman from Illinois is cer

tainly wrong.

Mr. WENTWORTH. I hope the gentleman from Mis

souri will be allowed to proceed.

Mr. CULLOM. I understand that the gentleman from

Missouri would want but a few minutes longer to conclude;

and I do hope, in view of the importance of the question and of the gentleman's age and great experience in legis-

lation, that he will be permitted toproceed.

Mr. CLINGMAN. I rise to a point of order: that the

Mr. CLINGMAN. I insist that the gentleman from

Fennessee is not in order.

Mr. CULLOM. I appeal to the committee to extend to

he gentleman from Missouri a few more minutes.

Mr. WENTWORTH. It is evidently in the power of

any one member to object to the gentleman from Mis-

souri proceeding. I am too well acquainted with the

rules of the House to trespass upon its courtesy if it is

the determination to object to the gentleman from Mis-

souri ; but he cannot do so unless by the general conse

again and again, and is out of order now.

Cries of "Order," order," and much confusion.

The CHAIRMAN. The rules must be observed.

should like to occupy it.

e allowed to proceed

of the committee.

ever been refused?

MANY MEMBERS. Never, nover.

By Mr. EVANS: Two petitions from persons profess

ing the Jewish religion, in favor of religious toleration being secured to American citizeus abroad. Several petitions were presented by Messrs. SEWARD, SUMNER, and others, in the shape of remonstrance against the passage of the Nebraska bill and violation of the Missouri compromise; which were laid on the table

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES. Mr. HAMLIN, from the Committee on Commerce, sul

mitted a report, accompanied by a bill for the relief of Geo. Dennett, of New Hampshire. Mr. GWIN, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, asked to be discharged from the further consideration of the memorial of E. A. F. Lavalette, of the U. S. Navy, and that it be referred to the Committee on Foreign Rela-

tions; which was agreed to. Also, from the same committee, asked to be discharged from the further consideration of the petition of Michael Hanson, and that it be referred to the Committee on Pensions; which was agreed to.

Mr. WENTWORTH, of Illinois, obtained the floor. He said that he understood the gentleman from Missouri Mr. NORRIS, from the Committee on the District of Columbia, asked to be discharged from the further conwished to speak but a few minutes longer, and he was therefore willing, with the consent of the committee, to yield a portion of his time to the gentleman to enable ideration of the several memorials of citizens of Wash ngton asking that Pennsylvania avenue may be paved with Russ pavement; which was agreed to.

Mr. JONES, of Iowa, from the Committee on Pensions ubmitted a report, accompanied by a bill for the relief of Urhan Scott.

PORTRAITS OF THE PRESIDENTS.

Mr. PEARCE, from the Committee on the Library, re ported a bill to authorize the purchase of portraits of the first five Presidents of the United States, and asked its

mmediate consideration.

Mr. HUNTER. I have no objection to considering the bill now, provided the Senator will agree to postpone it if it gives rise to debate. We wish to dispose of the Indian appropriation bill to-day.

Mr. PEARCE. If I find that the bill gives rise to any

Mr. WENTWORTH. I believe I have the control of sent to its postponement. The bill was read a second time, and considered as in Committee of the Whole. mittee will be extended to the gentleman from Missouri, and that he will be permitted to occupy such further time as will enable him to conclude his remarks. This has

It proposes to authorize the President to purchase and place in the Executive Mansion a series of portraits of the first five Presidents of the United States, by Gilbert Stuart, and to appropriate \$5,000, or so much thereof as

may be necessary, for that purpose.

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. President, there are five portraits, being those of the first five Presidents of the United States, which have been offered to the Government. They were all painted by Gilbert Stuart, whom the Senate knows to have been one of the most eminent artists of the country. They are originals, except that of Washington, which is Stuart's copy from his original. They re paintings of great value, as is certified by a number f gentlemen who are themselves artists or amateurs of great skill and judgment. All the portraits of Stuart are highly valued, as we know. Very lately a portrait of Washington painted by him was purchased, I believe, by the Boston Athenaeum for \$1,000. Those portraits are now insured at the sum of \$5,000. They are believed to form the only complete series of portraits of the first five Presidents by Stuart now in existence. There was a series of the same Presidents, by the same artist, which the owner had deposited in the Library of Congress a few years ago, but they were destroyed by the fire which consumed the Library in 1852. This is probably the only opportunity which the Government will have of acquiring the portraits of the Presidents by such a master.

here to understand that the oldest man living in Congress, who was here at the time the Missouri compromise was The committee thought they would be appropriate of adopted, was the only man who was now refused a courtesy that had been denied to no other living man. naments to the President's House, and fitting testimonial f the great men who served their country so well and so ably in the office of Chief Magistrate. The committee had no doubt that Congress would readily furnish the means for their purchase, and desire to see them placed Loud cries of "order," "order," and great confusion.

Mr. KEITT. As the gentleman desires facts to go to
the country, it would be well enough for him to state

in the President's house.

Mr. HAMLIN. Mr. President, I think myself it is ver desirable that this appropriation should be made, and shall vote for the bill with great cheerfulness. I should however, vote for it with much more cheerfulness if the committee had thought it expedient to make its provisions more extensive. This may perhaps be the last op-portunity we shall have to obtain the five portraits for which the committee makes provision. I suppose, with the lapse of years, that difficulty will increase, and it will also increase in regard to those not provided for. It seems to me that the bill should be so amended as to inlude all the Presidents, or at least all the ex-Presidents for there might be an impropriety in including the Presi-dent for the time being. But I certainly should be glad to see the Executive Mansion adorned with the portraits of all the preceding Presidents, and, if there is no imgentleman from Tennessee has no right to come in and make a speech inside of the speech of the gentleman from Illinois.
Mr. CULLOM. I am speaking by the permission of propriety in the thing, I would also include the present President. I think the portraits of all our Chief Magisthe gentleman from Illinois, and not by that of the gen-tleman from North Carolina. I never appeal to his cour-tesy. [Cries of "good." "good."] I say, in the face of this committee, that I have seen this courtesy extended trates ought to be preserved in the Executive Mansion.

Mr. PEARCE. If we knew where we could procur portraits of the other President's executed by competent masters, and at the proper price, I should have no sort of objection. This, however, will do for a beginning. We over and over again during my short probation in this House; and I ask if there is any thing peculiar in the case of the gentleman from Missouri why a discrimination

> way, and leave any thing further to time and the future termination of Congress. The bill was reported to the Senate without amend nent, ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read a third time, and passed.

RESOLUTION.

On motion by Mr. MALLORY, Resolved, That the Secretary of the Interior communicate o the Senate copies of the contract and instructions under which Luther Blake was employed to remove the Indians from Florida, together with copies of his correspondence with the Department upon that subject, and of his accounts and ouchers of his expenditures as such agent.

Mr. FISH alleded to the fact that last Friday had been set apart for the consideration of the adverse reports that have accumulated on the private calendar. He would now ask that next Friday be assigned for their considera tion; which was agreed to.

INDIAN AFFAIRS. On motion by Mr. HUNTER, the Senate then proceeded to the consideration of the bill making appropriations for the support of the Indian Department for the year end-

ing 30th of June, 1855.
Mr. SEBASTIAN moved an amendment to the bill giv ing authority to the President to change the location of the several Indian superintendencies. Mr. STUART moved to amend the amendment by proviso separating the duties of governor and Indian su-

perintendent of Minnesota. The motion of Mr. STUART lead to considerable discussion, in which Messrs. STUART, HUNTER, SEBAS-TIAN, WALKER, DOUGLAS, DAWSON, TOUCEY, and others participated; when the amendment to the amend

ment was rejected. The amendment of Mr. SEBASTIAN was then agreed to with a proviso to the effect that, whenever the Presi-dent shall transfer the duties of Indian superintendent from the governor of Minnesota, the salary of said governor shall remain as it now stands, \$2,500 per annum. Numerous other amendments were adopted making appropriations to carry out treaty stipulations with various

And the further consideration of the bill was postponed until to-morrow.

On motion by Mr. HAMLIN, the Senate then proceeded to the consideration of Executive business; and, after some time spent therein, the doors were re-opened and the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. Mr. HOUSTON, by consent, from the Committee o Ways and Means, reported a bill making appropriations for the service of the Post Office Department during the fiscal year ending the 30th June, 1855; which was twice and committed.

curred in suppressing Indian aggressions in that State; and the bill and amendments were committed. Mr. PARKER, by consent, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported a bill to regulate the salaries of the district judges of the United States; which was read

twice and then recommitted.

PUBLIC LANDS. The House resumed the bill granting lands equally to the several States to aid in the construction of railroads marks. [This speech is given entire on the sixth page | and for the support of schools, heretofore reported by

Mr. BENNETT from the Committee on Public Lands, with the recommendation that it do not pass. Mr. BENNETT resumed and concluded his remarks in explanation and support of the bill. He contended that the old States, who had contributed their share in the expenses of the purchase and management of the public lands, were entitled to an equal participation in the benefits to be derived from them. He insisted that the pre-sent system was unequal and unjust, and declared that

ns of acres of the public domain. Mr. PERKINS, of Louisiana, and Mr. BENNETT then aodified the substitutes for the bill heretofore offered by

The House accordingly went into Committee, (Mr. CHANDLER, of Pennsylvania, in the chair,) and resumed the consideration of the bill to supply deficiencies in the appropriations for the service of the fiscal year ending the 30th of June, 1854, returned from the Senate with

numerous amendments.

Mr. HARRIS, of Mississippi, concluded the remarks

commenced by him a few days ago in opposition to the Nebraska-Kansas bill in its present form.

Mr. H. stated his objections to the bill. He contended that Congress should repeal the Missouri compromise holdly, or not at all. If they were not prepared to repeal it, they should let it stand where it is. He referred to the insidious character of the bill, and condemned the Badger provise as the Wilmot provise in another form. Badger provise as the whinet provise in another form.

Mr. HIESTER addressed the committee on the same
subject. He opposed the bill on the ground that if
passed it would violate the solemn treaty obligations of
the Government with the Indian tribes residing within the

limits of the contemplated Territories, and because it pro-posed to repeal the Missouri prohibition of 1820. Mr. TAYLOR, of Ohio, next obtained the floor. He said that he felt constrained, as a member of the Committee on Territories, to refer, for a few moments, to the distracting question which had occupied the attention of Congress for the last four or five months. In doing this he wished in the outset to disclaim all personal feelings towards any member of the committee, and to declare that he had no other than kind and fraternal feelings towards every section of the Union. Though he was here as one of the twenty-one Representatives from the State of Ohio, he felt that he was bound to discharge his duty as a representative of the whole Union, and would resign his seat immediately could he lose sight of

his national obligations.

Mr. T. then referred to the impediments interposed by the Nebraska bill in the way of the business of the country, and said that instead of progressing in the legislation which the people demanded of them, and endeavoring to discharge their duty first to the people and them to the administrators of the Government, they were tied down here day after day by a sectional question, of which, as a Whig member of this Congress, he washed his hands, as he had no part in introducing it into these halls. Nor did he believe the party to which he belonged had instigated or encouraged it. It was not introduced into Congress by the Whig party of the United States. He had too much respect for the party to which he belonged to believe that they would have countenanced such a measure when there was no necessity for it—a sectional question which in his judgment transcended in importance any which had occupied the attention of Congress

since 1820.

It had been asserted by gentlemen and by the organ that this was an Administration measure, and that the Administration was determined to carry it through the House either by persuasion, intimidation, or threats. As a representative of a free people, he wished to preserve the power, privileges, and immunities of this body, as, to use the expression of the distinguished member from Missouri, (Mr. Benton,) the great branch of the American Government. When our fathers built up this Governmeat, and, after the Revolution, framed the Constitution, they designed that the Judicial, Legislative, and Executive Departments of the Government should be as inde-pendent of each other as possible. From a small nation of three or four millions we had grown to be a nation hav-ing twenty-five million inhabitants. We had advanced in prosperity, wealth, power, and greatness even beyond the expectations of the founders of the Government, until now we had become the great republic of the world, the admiration of our own people and of all mankind. But in the progress of our country the three departments had not equally preserved their power. He thanked Heaven that the judiciary of the nation still stood in all its majesty and purity; but the legislative power had been in a great degree overshadowed by the Executive authority, no matter into whose hands it might have fallen.

As for himself, he was independent of all Presidents, never having received or asked any favors from them, and never expecting to receive any. The legislative power ought to scorn and look down with contempt every intimation, even in the political organ or in an official com-munication, the object of which was to drive them, to the detriment of profitable legislation, to the discussion of exciting questions, calculated to arouse the passions of the different sections of our Union.

He considered the bill as a proposition to destroy a great national compact, and called upon his Southern

brethren not to break down this great settled principle of brethren not to break down this great settled principle of legislation, which had given peace to the country for upwards of thirty years. In his humble judgment—and he spoke as a conservative man—he believed that if Congress should repeal the Missouri compromise of 1820 they would set a precedent by which all other compromises would be repealed. He would do no act that would convent legislation on this subject to the numerical power. commit legislation on this subject to the numerical power of the country, rather than to its patriotism and good

He then stated his objections to the bill-first, because he did not deem it necessary; second, he was not satisfied with the boundaries it proposed; third, it would violate our treaty stipulations with the Indians; and, fourth, it proposed to repeal the Missouri compromise.

The gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. CLINGMAR) the other day cast an unmerited censure on a portion of the Whig party of the Union, connecting with it the " National Intelligencer" of this city. He with great regret heard that gentleman denounce that paper as always taking the side of despotism when arrayed against liberknow that we can get these portraits painted by a conty; and he (Mr. T.) could not at the time but recollect that when in 1814 the British came to this city, after destroying the Capitol and other public buildings, they went to the "Intelligencer" office and destroyed it also. Did this look as if the Intelligencer was on the side of despotism then? Although he did not consider it the Whig organ—for he did not believe that that party had any organ-yet for intelligence, for ability, and for conservatism it well might be called a model for any newspaper or for any statesman.

He believed that in the North there were as patriotic men as in the South and that the South contained as patriotic men as the North, and he was proud to believe that his own country was full of intelligence and pa-triotism, and that its people were able to defend it whenever occasion demanded

He did not believe that this bill would become a law. There was too much good sense here to break down a compromise built up by Clay, Lowndes, and others of the day and generation in which they lived.

The committee then rose and the House adjourned.

A MAN REFORE ADAM.

A conglomerate work, to use a geological phrase, has lately been published in Philadelphia, entitled "The Types of Mankind," made up of contributions from the late Dr. Morton, Agassiz, Usher, Nott, and Gliddon. This work is destined to create something of a commotion in the religious world. The idea of the unity of the race of man is totally discarded by the authors, one and all. Dr. Usher makes the astounding statement in this work that a human fossil has been found in New Orleans, in the course of some excavation in that city, to which a pre-Adamite age is attributed. According to his authority, the skeleton of a man, of the conformation of our native Indians, was discovered at a depth of sixteen feet, lying below a succession of four fossil cypress forests, to each of which the age of 14,400 years is given. Agassiz is said to have accepted this as a fact, and based his assertion that man existed upon the earth at least 150,000 years ago. The theologian must either disprove this statement or be compelled to admit a new exegesis of Holy Writ."

So says the Evening Post. But the New York Tribune thus causes the collapse of the Post's assumption :

The Evening Post is responsible for the above. We do not see how the fact that Dr. Usher makes an "astounding statement" about a "human fossil to which a pre-Adamite age is attributed," or even that said skeleton was found at a depth of sixteen feet below "four fossil forests, to each of which the age of 14,400 years is given," is an adequate basis for all that is here piled upon it. Considering the volume of the mighty Mississippi, the Mr. McDOUGAL, by consent, from the Committee on liberties it takes with its banks, the rapid growth and Military Affairs, reported back, with amendments, House bill to refund to the State of California the expenses inluxuriance of vegetation in that semi-tropical region, and the concurrence of natural convulsions in producing physical changes, we think he must be a bold rather than a safe generalizer who could deduce with any confidence from such data as are here given the conclusion that man has existed on this earth 14,400 years, much less 150,000. We do not propose to dogmatize in turn; but we cannot believe that "the theologian" is "compelled to admit a new exegesis" on any such grounds as these.

How LETTERS MISCARRY .- About ten days ago a prominent business firm in New York deposited a letter, containing remittances amounting to about \$16,000, in the city of New York, directed, as they alleged, to Providence, R. I. The package not having been received by the persons addressed by due course of mail, the matter was brought to the notice of the postmaster, who instituted an investigation; the consequence of which was that the package was found at Providence, (N. Y.) to which place it was plainly directed. Such mistakes are too common among our business men and financial institutions .- Evening Post.

all he claimed was justice and equality. If the bill should pass it would give the old States something over twenty SALE OF A KACE HORSE.—It is stated that the great Georgia horse Highlander, who was purchased by Judge Hunter and others for \$10,000, a few months since, and was beaten in the \$10,000 State stake race over the Metairie course at New Orleans, has been sold to Mr. J. Boy-den, of New York, the owner of Compromise, for \$4,000, and is on his way to Baltimore.